

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

RONALD C. PACKARD POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4794) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1895 Avenida Del Oro in Oceanside, California, as the "Ronald C. Packard Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4794

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RONALD C. PACKARD POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1895 Avenida Del Oro in Oceanside, California, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald C. Packard Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ronald C. Packard Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 4794.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4794, introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), designates the post office located in Oceanside, California, as the Ronald C. Packard Post Office Building. Members of the entire House delegation from the State of California are cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Ron Packard was first elected to Congress on November 2, 1982, after a successful write-in campaign, becoming only the fourth write-in candidate in U.S. history to win a House seat. He served the people of San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties for 18 years in the House of Representatives before his retirement at the close of the 106th Congress.

During his time in Congress, Mr. Packard served on the prestigious Committee on Appropriations and chaired the powerful Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, Subcommittee on Military Construction,

and Subcommittee on Legislative of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Packard began his public service in the United States Navy, which he entered upon graduation from dental school in 1957. He was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, and served as a dentist in the U.S. Navy Corps. Following his military service, he relocated his family and practice to the Carlsbad area and founded the Packard Dental Clinic.

He quickly became active in local civic and business affairs, and received his first public post in 1962 as a trustee of the Carlsbad Unified School District, which included 3 years as chairman.

He served as a director of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce for 4 years, and served 2 years on the Carlsbad City Council, and 4 years as mayor of Carlsbad. As mayor, he focused on critical regional issues. He served 3 years on the Transportation Policy Committee of the League of California Cities, and 4 years as a director of the North County Transit District.

Representative Packard retired from Congress in 2000 so he could spend more time with his family. Ron and Jean Packard married in 1952 and have 7 children, 34 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 4794.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Committee on Government Reform, I rise in support of H.R. 4794, legislation naming a post office after Ronald C. Packard.

H.R. 4794, which was introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) on May 22, 2002, has met the committee policy and enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire California delegation.

Ron Packard was elected to Congress on November 2, 1982, by a write-in vote, only the fourth successful write-in candidate in the history of the United States Congress. Representative Packard represented the 48th District in California for 18 years, until his retirement from Congress on January 3, 2001.

A member of the United States Navy Dental Corps, Ronald Packard founded the Packard Dental Clinic before becoming active in community and business affairs. He began public service as a trustee and chairman of the Carlsbad Unified School District, going on to serve as a city councilman and later as mayor of Carlsbad.

While in Congress, Representative Packard served on the Committee on Appropriations, chairing the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, the Subcommittee on Military Construction, and the Subcommittee on Legislative. He also worked as a senior member of the Subcommittee on Transportation and the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs.

Previously, he served on the Committee on Public Works, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Committee on Science, the Subcommittee on Space and Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, authoring this bill was a unique pleasure for me, for I have known Ron Packard for all but 2 years of the time that he was a Member of Congress. But what I did not know until I arrived here was what kind of a special Representative Ron Packard was while he was here in Congress.

Time after time Members on both sides of the aisle would come up to me and talk about something special they had with Ron, perhaps a difficult situation long into the night on a piece of legislation either here on the floor or in committee, or some piece of appropriations that both sides were wrangling with how to make it work. And Ron would quietly smile, give a kind word, listen, and try to make things happen. That attitude, that way of doing business, was what everyone remembered about Ron.

What we also remember about Ron Packard is that he was able to have that unique talent so seldom found in this body, but so admired when it is found. Ron was able to be fiercely partisan in his beliefs and totally open and bipartisan in the way he approached problems, in the way he dealt with Members on both sides of the aisle.

Ron was known as a man who was already not only an adult, but a father and on his way to being a grandfather before he discovered the game of golf. He did not use golf as a tool against anyone, he used it as an opportunity to come to the other side of the aisle to say, let us go talk about something and maybe catch a round of golf.

Ron did that in everything that he did here in the House. He will be remembered for his effectiveness, but most important, back in our district, he today is contributing as only a former Member of Congress can.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4794, a bill designating the United States Post Office building in Oceanside, California, as the "Ronald C. Packard Post Office Building." I would like to thank Chairman DAN BURTON and the Government Reform Committee for discharging this bill, and House Leadership for placing it on the suspension calendar in such an expeditious manner.

Many of you remember Ron Packard as the distinguished Congressman who represented the 48th Congressional District for 18 years, but you may not know his storied past. Congressman Ron Packard has served the people of California and his country for nearly half century, accentuating integrity and above all, respect for his fellow man.

After relocating his family to Northern San Diego County, Ron Packard began his public service career as a trustee of the Carlsbad